

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a cellular phone having a display, a central processing unit (CPU), a photosensitive element on a surface, and a control circuit coupled to said photosensitive element, a method comprising the steps of:
  - 5 (a) switching said cellular phone to an automatic background brightness control mode;
  - (b) measuring a voltage between two terminals of said photosensitive element by said CPU; and
  - (c) adjusting a background brightness of said display with respect to said
- 10 measured voltage.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
  - (d) determining whether a manual background brightness control mode is selected; and
  - (e) if result in step (d) is positive switching said cellular phone to said
- 15 manual background brightness control mode for commanding said CPU to select and show said background brightness from a brightness menu shown on said display.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said photosensitive element is a photoresistor.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said voltage measured in step (b) is one of first stage when said voltage is lower than 1.5 volt, second stage when said voltage is in the range between 1.5 volt and 2 volt, third stage when said voltage is in the range between 2 volt and 2.5 volt, and fourth stage when said voltage is in the range between 2.5 volt and 3 volt, whereby said CPU is capable of
- 25 switching said background of said display to one of off, low brightness, intermediate brightness, and high brightness states with respect to said corresponding voltage.